PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

ESTABLISHMENT.

Proceedings of the Madras Government,

FOR THE

MONTH OF NOVEMBER 1873.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

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ESTABLISHMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT,

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

For the month of November **1873.**

No. 15. Read the following Circular from the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Establishment—General,) dated Simla, 11th October 1873, No. 57 :—

The Governments of Madras and Bombay.
The Governments of Bengal, North-Western Provinces, and Punjab, in the Buildings and Roads and Irrigation Branches.
The Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, Oudh, British Burmah, and Mysore and Coorg.
The Resident at Hyderabad.
The Agents to the Governor General for Rajpootana and Central India.

THE following is forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations noted in the margin, for information and guidance.

(By Order.)

(Signed) J. G. STEEL, Captain, R.E.,
Offg. Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

RESOLUTION by the Government of India, Financial Department, dated Simla, the 27th September 1873, No. 3,104.

Read—

Section 10 of Act XXIII. of 1871, as follows :—

"The Local Government may, with the consent of the holder, order the whole or any part of his pension, or grant of money, or land revenue, to be commuted for a lump sum on such terms as may seem fit.

RESOLUTION.—The Governor General in Council observes that the only general rules for the commutation of pensions are those in Chapter XIX. of the Civil Pension Code. The policy of the Government of India is opposed to the commutation of pensions save under very exceptional circumstances ; and His Excellency in Council, therefore, desires that Local Governments and Administrations will invariably consult the Government of India before ordering the commutation of pensions otherwise than as provided for in the Civil Pension Code.

2. This Resolution is not to be understood as interfering with the rules which have already been issued with the sanction of the Government of India in regard to the commutation of any special classes of pension in any of the Presidencies or Provinces.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of the foregoing Resolution be forwarded to the several Departments of the Government of India, the several Local Governments and Administrations; the Comptroller-General, the several Accountants-General, and the several Deputy Accountants-General in independent charge.

No. 16. ORDER THEREON, 1st November 1873, No. 2,680.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 1.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 24. Read the following letter from T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 2nd October 1873, No. 4,153 :—

WITH reference to G. O., No. 2,360, of the 24th September last, I have the honour to request that you will do me the favour to explain to His Excellency in Council that, though the establishment of this office is large as regards Accountants and Clerks, it is numerically weak in respect to peons, and has no lascars attached to it.

2. The eight peons hitherto employed were found to be insufficient for the ordinary work expected from this class of servants, viz., carrying papers and notes within the office building during office hours, delivering official letters, etc., outside, and guarding or watching the office at night, and my predecessor accordingly applied for an increase, which has been recently sanctioned. For years punkah-pullers have been employed in this office, the charge being met from the grant for contingencies, and, at present, owing to the peculiar arrangement of the office rooms, ten punkah-pullers are employed at a monthly cost of Rupees 21-8-0. Of these ten pullers, two receive Rupees 3 each, being *men* who have to pull large punkahs, while the others being *boys* are paid at different rates, in no case exceeding Rupees 2-8-0.

3. If peons must be required to pull punkahs they will not, during the months they may be so employed, be available for the ordinary work of carrying office papers from room to room, etc., and I submit that in getting paid as peons (Rupees 7 per mensem each) they will be too highly paid for pulling punkahs.

4. Under the explanation above given I trust the Government will be pleased to sanction a continuance of the present arrangement, but if such sanction cannot be given I beg to propose that I may be permitted to utilize 18 Rupees of the increase recently sanctioned for this office in paying punkah-pullers. The sum of 18 Rupees has been sanctioned for a Duffadar and a Head Peon, but I would prefer to do without these comparatively useless servants rather than lose the services of peons by requiring them to pull punkahs.

No. 25. ORDER THEREON, 3rd November 1873, No. 2,685.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 2.

HIS Excellency the Governor in Council is not prepared to authorize any expenditure on account of punkah-pullers, and if the services of a Duffadar and Head Peon can be conveniently dispensed with, the charge should form a saving on the increase recently sanctioned to the Controller's Establishment, to be included in the revised scheme of establishment, called for in G. O., No. 2,461A, dated 7th October 1873. It has been ascertained that when the services of peons or lascars cannot be utilized, when necessary, for punkah-pulling, the men employed on the duty are paid by the officers or subordinates themselves who engage their services.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 28. Read the following endorsement of the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated 15th October 1873 :—

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th September 1873, No. 1,810.

ABSTRACT.—*Public Buildings* required in Trichinopoly District.—Letter from Collector forwarding list of —, submitted to Government.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government, R.D.

No. 29. ORDER THEREON, 3rd November 1873, No. 2,687.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 3.

THE plans and estimates for conversion of the old palace at Trichinopoly are now before Government, and the District Engineer, who has been supplied with copies of them, will be authorized to utilize the current year's allotment of Rupees 15,000 in carrying out the provision made for accommodating the Tahsildar and Town Sub-Magistrate. The Arcaloor Sub-jail has been fully provided from the current year by the Budget allotment of Rupees 6,000 and transfers sanctioned in G. O., No. 2,392, of 30th September. The work required to complete the buildings at Kilapalur can be carried out in the current year, on submission of the necessary plan and estimate.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 30. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th October 1873, No. 2,065 :—

ABSTRACT.—*Public Works* in Trichinopoly District.—Collector's report on — for 1872-73, submitted to Government with remarks.

No. 31. ORDER THEREON, 3rd November 1873, No. 2,688.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 4.

COMMUNICATED to the District Engineer, Trichinopoly.

2. The result of the year's operations may, with the exception of the progress on Civil Buildings, be regarded as satisfactory. Under this head Rupees 22,554 only were spent out of an allotment of Rupees 36,821, leaving a sum of Rupees 14,267 unutilized.

3. His Excellency the Governor in Council expects that better arrangements for employing the grants at the disposal of the District Engineer are being made during the current year.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 34. Read the following letter from J. W. RUNDALL, Esq., District Engineer, Tinnevelly, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Palamcottah, 11th October 1873, No. 105:—

I HAVE the honour to report that on the 25th ultimo a certificate of unfitness for further service was given by Surgeons Rickard and Cook to Overseer Velayutham Pillay.

2. This was received by me on the 30th. I at once instructed the Range Officer to relieve Velayutham Pillay from all duty, which was finally done on the 6th instant. Pay for Velayutham Pillay has only been drawn up to the 25th ultimo; according to Clause 1, Section 52, of the Civil Pension Code, the sanction of Government is required for pay to be disbursed to any officer after the date of his unfit certificate.

3. It was impossible to relieve the Overseer before he appeared before the Doctors, because it could not be known whether he would or would not be certified as unfit for further service but as soon as possible after the certificate was given he was relieved. I therefore request, as a special case, that pay and travelling allowance may be authorized for the Overseer up to 6th October. His application for pension is under preparation, and will be forwarded in a few days.

No. 35. ORDER THEREON, 3rd November 1873, No. 2,690.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 5.

UNDER the circumstances reported the Controller of Public Works Accounts will be authorized to pass the Overseer's pay and allowances up to the 6th October as a special case.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 49. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Kunnurupilly, 6th October 1873, No. 716 :—

From R. E. NORFOR, Esq., District Engineer, South Arcot, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Cuddalore, 20th September 1873, No. 109.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for early sanction, a revised statement of the Temporary Survey Establishment required during 1873-74 for completing the investigation of the storage in connection with the Pelandorai Anicut Project.

2. In the statement submitted to the Controller on the 5th May 1873, and which, it is observed from his letter recorded in G. O., No. 1,652, of the 25th June 1873, was transferred to you, only Rupees 284 was applied for; it will be now observed from the accompanying statement that a sum of Rupees 354 is already due for the establishment, and that Rupees 75 more is required for September and part of October, by which time the investigation of the project is expected to be finished.

3. Mr. Bell, the late Range Officer, in applying for Rupees 284, expected to complete the investigation and the plans and estimates by the end of June last; in this he appears to have been mistaken. The Supervisor now in charge of the Pelandorai Anicut Project reports that when he took charge he found eight tanks surveyed and roughly plotted, and that he subsequently drew out the necessary plans, etc., for masonry works; all that now remains is a few days' field-work for the cross drainages and the drawing of about 20 more plans in all. These will be completed by the 15th October 1873. Considerable delay in survey operation is also attributed to unusual wet weather we had during the current calender year.

4. Pending the formal sanction of Government to the continuance of the establishment in this year, I have authorized the Range Officer to disburse the pay due to the same, debiting it for the present to the head "Miscellaneous Advances."

Statement showing the arrears of pay due to Survey Establishment employed on the Storage Investigations of Pelandorai Project, Sub-division No. 3 Range, South Arcot District.

No.	Description.	Rate.	Per.	Amount.	Deduction on account of fines, stoppages, etc.	Net Amount.
		RS.		RS.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
6	Months' salaries of 1 Surveyor from 1st March to 31st August 1873	50	...	300	*41 10 8	258 5 4
2	Do. do. of 5 Lascars from 1st March to 30th April 1873	6	...	60	...	60 0 0
1	Do. do. of 1 do. from 1st March to 31st August 1873	6	...	36	...	36 0 0
	Total...	...	...	396	41 10 8	354 5 4
	Deduct amount asked for by Mr. Bell, late Range Officer					284 0 0
	Net amount of deficiency					70 5 4
	Further amount required to keep up the Surveyor for 1½ months, from 1st September to 15th October 1873, to complete the project finally					75 0 0
	Total additional allotment required...					145 5 4

(Signed) G. E. WIFFEN, *Range Officer.*

(Signed) J. A. HICKEN, *Officer in charge Sub-division No. 3 Range.*

CHELLUMBRUM,
11th September 1873.

(Signed) R. E. NORFOR, *District Engineer.*

* Absent on leave from 16th June to 10th July 1873.

SUBMITTED to Government with a recommendation that the additional* sanction required for Survey Establishments for storage investigations in connection with the Pelandorai Anicut Project be granted. The outlay on this account will be debitable to the Extraordinary grant.

* Rupees 145-5-4.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 50. ORDER THEREON, 4th November 1873, No. 2,698.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 6.

THE sum of Rupees 145 is sanctioned in addition to the amount authorized in G. O., No. 2,330A., dated 19th September 1873, the charge being met from Loan Funds.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 74. Read the following :—

From the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, dated 23rd October 1873.

No. 75. ORDER THEREON, 5th November 1873, No. 2,709.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 7.

ORDERED that this certificate be transmitted to the Home Government.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 76. Read the following letter from Major J. G. STEEL, R.E., Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Establishment—Buildings and Roads,) to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Simla, 20th October 1873, No. 762 E.—B :—

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 2,334, dated 20th ultimo, I am directed to communicate sanction to the extension to the Writers of Taluq Overseers of the rules under which batta is passed to clerks employed in other Range Offices when travelling on duty.

No. 77. ORDER THEREON, 5th November 1873, No. 2,710.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 8.

13th November 1872, No. 2,674.
18th August 1873, ,, 2,052.

COMMUNICATED to the Controller of Public Works Accounts and to District Engineers with reference to the orders marginally noted.

2. The arrangement will have effect from the 1st November 1873.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 125. Read the following letter from R. SMITH, Esq., District Engineer, Nellore, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Nellore, 18th October 1873, No. 101 :—

WITH reference to G. O., No. 2,286, dated 16th September 1873, I have the honour to report that the subordinate in immediate charge of the Nellore Anicut Quarry is the Anicut Superintendent; but as this man's duties do not admit of his exercising more than a general check on the works there, the Anicut Head Lascar, who has had many year's experience in quarrying, is in actual charge of operations, and was present when the accident occurred.

2. From inquiries made by me, and from what I observed at the spot where the slip happened, I am of opinion that the man who was in charge of the works is not chargeable with actual neglect of duty; but to guard against similar mishaps I have ordered *all* soil overlying the rock to be removed before quarrying, under any circumstance, is attempted.

No. 126. ORDER THEREON, 8th November 1873, No. 2,726.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 9.

ORDERED to be recorded.

2. The District Engineer will in future report fully on such accidents in the first instance.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 140. Read the following letter from T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 16th October 1873, No. 4,530 :—

1 Inspection Report for July 1873.
1 Bill.

IN March last the Government of India ruled that the question as to whether halting or half halting allowance should be passed to an officer for any period of a halt within ten miles of his head-quarters exceeding three days in duration might be left to Superintending Engineers to decide in each case. This ruling was communicated to this office in a Circular from the Accountant General, Public Works Department, of which copies were subsequently* furnished by Mr. Brock to all District Engineers, and in August following a claim was made with reference thereto by Executive Engineer Mr. Nordmann to half the daily rate of travelling allowance for a full month's halt at his head-quarters in July 1873.

* In Circular, No. 1-40, dated 7th April 1873.

2. In submitting the claim the District Engineer, Vizagapatam, stated that he had passed the amount under the ruling above quoted, as Mr. Nordmann had been engaged during the month on work (Harbour Survey) that necessitated his travelling daily, though not to a distance of ten miles from head-quarters. Seeing, however, that Mr. Nordmann had only on one day gone out five miles from his head-quarters, his ordinary journey daily being four miles and back, it appeared to me that his case was not different to that of an officer in charge of a large station who has to go over as much ground but who does not get travelling allowance. I

therefore considered it advisable to take the opinion of the Accountant General, and, as he agrees with me in thinking the charge inadmissible, I now refer the matter for the orders of Government.

3. I enclose for reference Mr. Nordmann's Inspection Report and Travelling Allowance Bill for the month in question.

No. 141. ORDER THEREON, 10th November 1873, No. 2,733.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 10.

THE order of the Government of India referred to in the 1st paragraph of the Controller's letter does not appear to have been communicated to this Government. But the decision of the District Engineer in the case now submitted for orders may be accepted under its ruling.

2. Mr. Nordmann, whose permanent head-quarters are Vizianagram, has to take up temporary head-quarters at Waltair for a certain period of the year, under G. O., No. 2,034, of 15th August, a change which must inevitably put him to expense. He comes therefore within the category of officers employed on special duty who for the most part are compelled to remain stationary, and who, though not maintaining carriage, are put to expense by being absent from their *permanent* head-quarters. See G. O., No. 2,647, of 9th September 1865, and letter from Government of India of 26th September 1872, quoted in G. O., No. 2,665, of 12th November 1872.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 142. Read the following letter from Major J. G. STEEL, R.E., Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Establishment—Irrigation,) to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Simla, 20th October 1873, No. 345 E. I :—

IN reply to your letter No. 2,375, dated 26th ultimo, I am directed to communicate sanction to the additional Conservancy Establishment required in the Western Delta of the Godavery for working the Muddapuram and Gudicherla locks, involving an increase of Rupees 54 per mensem, and to confirm the action of the Madras Government in having authorized the entertainment of the Establishment in anticipation of sanction.

2. This sanction is registered as No. 66 of 1873.

No. 143. ORDER THEREON, 10th November 1873, No. 2,734.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 11.

COMMUNICATED to the undermentioned officers, with reference to G. O., No. 2,374, dated 26th September 1873:—

District Engineer, Godavery.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 144. Read the following letter from Major J. G. STEEL, R.E., Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Establishment—Irrigation,) to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Simla, 20th October 1873, No. 343 E. I:—

IN reply to your letter, No. 2,068A, dated 19th August last, I am directed to communicate sanction to the revised scale proposed for the Conservancy Establishment of the Tanjore District, involving an increase of Rupees 218-10-0 per mensem.

2. This sanction has been registered as No. 65 of 1873.

No. 145. ORDER THEREON, 10th November 1873, No. 2,735.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 12.

COMMUNICATED to the undermentioned officers with reference to G. O., No. 2,068, dated 19th August 1873:—

District Engineer, Tanjore.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Read the following papers:—

No. 174c. From T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 21st October 1873, No. 4,624.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith an application from Lieutenant Christie, Deputy Controller, for privilege leave for three months, which I beg may be recommended for sanction to the Government of India, with reference to G. O., No. 2,270, of the 6th September 1871.

1 Original letter from Lieutenant Christie, R.E., Deputy Controller.

2. Lieutenant Christie is eligible to the leave applied for.

From Lieutenant C. H. P. CHRISTIE, R.E., Deputy Controller of Public Works Accounts for Irrigation, to T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, dated Madras, 21st October 1873.

I HAVE the honour to request that you will forward to Government this my application for privilege leave of absence for three months, to commence from such date as I may avail myself

of it after my return from Calcutta, where I am directed to report myself to the Accountant-General, Public Works Department, by the 25th November.

2. I have no present intention of applying for furlough or leave on private affairs within three months after my return from the leave now applied for.

No. 174D. Endorsement of the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, dated Madras, 30th October 1873, No. 4,853.

From Lieutenant C. H. P. CHRISTIE, R.E., Deputy Controller of Public Works Accounts for Irrigation, to T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, dated Fort St. George, 30th October 1873.

REFERRING to memorandum of the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, No. 405, dated 27th October 1873, I have the honour to state that if the privilege leave applied for by me is granted, I propose to go to Bangalore on my return from Calcutta, and I shall be prepared to comply with any requisition which may be made for my services in connection with the camp of exercise.

2. I presume that there will be no objection to my availing myself of the unexpired portion of the leave as soon as I am set free from Military duty should I then desire to do so.

FORWARDED to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, with reference to his memorandum, No. 405, of the 27th instant.

(Signed) T. MOSS,
Officiating Controller of P. W. Accounts.

No. 174E. ORDER THEREON, 12th November 1873, No. 2,750B.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 12A.

WITH reference to that portion of the letter from the Deputy Controller for Irrigation accompanying the letter from the Officiating Controller, dated 30th October 1873, in which he intimates that he has been directed to report himself to the Accountant-General, Public Works Department, by the 25th instant, His Excellency the Governor in Council observes that no application has as yet been made to this Government on the subject;

and as in a letter to the Government of India of 28th March 1873, No. 967, it was intimated that it was not considered advisable for the Deputy Controller to proceed to Calcutta until he had at first acquainted himself here with the materials upon which he will have to work, and no reply to that communication having been received, His Excellency the Governor in Council cannot permit Lieutenant Christie to leave the Presidency until this Government receive information of the circumstances under which he is required at Calcutta.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 185. Read the following letter from T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 20th October 1873, No. 4,591 :—

WITH reference to G. O., No. 2,484, of the 10th instant, sanctioning a deputation allowance of Rupees 50 per mensem to Mr. Overseer Ward while in charge of the Sidhout Range, I have the honour to suggest that the confirmation of the Government of India be applied for, as the arrangement falls within the prohibition mentioned in Standing Order No. 43 of 1871 (paragraph 14), issued by that Government and made applicable to this Presidency.

2. Mr. Overseer Ward has temporarily succeeded Mr. Sub-Engineer Seton in the charge of the range, and therefore the case is one in which an Upper Subordinate is performing duties previously entrusted to one of a higher grade, as mentioned in the standing order above quoted.

3. I beg to add that I shall pass the deputation allowance in anticipation of confirmation by the Government of India.

No. 186. ORDER THEREON, 12th November 1873, No. 2,756.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 13.

ORDERED that the following letter be sent.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 187. From the Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, Public Works Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, P.W.D., dated 12th November 1873, No. 2,757.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 14.

SIR,—I am directed to bring to notice that under the provisions of Rule 4, Section 14, Chapter V., of the Acting Allowance Code, His Excellency the Governor in Council sanctioned the grant of a deputation allowance of Rupees 50 per mensem to an Overseer who held temporary charge of a range; but that the Controller of Public Works Accounts has objected that the restriction imposed by paragraph 14 of the Government of India Standing Orders, No. 43 of 1871, applies to the case. I am to request therefore the confirmation of that Government to a general rule that Overseers when appointed to the charge of ranges shall draw the prescribed deputation allowance, on the ground that in this Presidency such charges are held by a higher class of Upper Subordinates, and by Assistant Engineers, and by Executive Engineers of the 4th grade, indifferently.

No. 188. Read the following letter from Major J. O. HASTED, R.E., District Engineer, Kistna, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Masulipatam, 17th October 1873, No. 71 :—

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of a letter from the Deputy Collector, Chetterpore, to Supervisor G. Vencat Row, declining to pass his pay from the 23rd May 1873 (the date of the Government Order appointing him Supervisor) at the rate of Rupees 150 per mensem, to which I believe he is entitled.

2. Vencat Row left Bezwada on the 27th June to join his new appointment, and the month not having expired I was unable to draw pay for him; I therefore authorized an advance of Rupees 100 to be made to him from the workshop, where he had been employed, and in consequence of his full pay not having been passed, the advance has not yet been fully recovered. The Deputy Collector allows him only to draw Rupees 150 per mensem from date of joining his present appointment, and pay for 44 days previous to this date, at the rate of Rupees 100 per mensem; whereas, as I understand it, he is entitled to pay from 23rd to 31st May, at the rate of Rupees 50 per mensem, the difference between pay as Anicut Superintendent on Rupees 100 a month (already paid him) and pay as Supervisor on Rupees 150 a month, and pay from the 1st June 1873 at Rupees 150 per mensem as Supervisor.

3. The difficulty has probably arisen in consequence of his pay having to be drawn now from the Court of Wards, and to enable him to draw the balance of pay due to him, special authority seems to be required.

No. 189. ORDER THEREON, 12th November 1873, No. 2,758.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 15.

AS VENCAT ROW'S promotion to the rank of Supervisor was consequent on his appointment to Kimedy, he cannot be

allowed to draw the increased rate of salary except from the date on which he actually took charge of his new appointment. No Overseer promoted to be Supervisor draws increased pay till after he has taken a sub-divisional or range charge.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 199. Read the following endorsement of the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Ootacamund, 31st October 1873 :—

From Brigadier-General R. C. STEWART, Adjutant General, to Colonel A. C. SILVER, Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Head-quarters, Ootacamund, 24th October 1873, No. 517.

I HAVE the honour, by desire of the Commander-in-Chief, to request you will be good enough to obtain the sanction of Government for the temporary services of the officers named in the margin being placed at the disposal of His Excellency for the purpose, in Committee with other officers, of drawing up a report on the works and armaments required at Fort St. George and other forts in this Presidency.

Lieutenant-Colonel Shaw-Stewart, R.E.
Do. Childers, R.A.

2. I am to state that the duties of the Committee are not likely to interfere in a great measure with the present occupations under Government of these officers.

REFERRED to the Public Works Department and the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines.

(Signed) A. C. SILVER, Colonel,
Secretary to Government, M.D.

No. 200. ORDER THEREON, 13th November 1873, No. 2,764.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 16.

THE services of Lieutenant-Colonel Shaw-Stewart will be made available for the purpose defined in the Adjutant General's letter, without prejudice to his regular duties in connection with the railway branch of the Public Works Department.

(Signed) J. STURROCK,
Acting Under Secy.,
for *Secy. to Govt., P. W.D.*

No. 204. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Pereacolum, 29th September 1873, No. 2,769 :—

I HAVE the honour to state, in reference to the enclosed petition received with your docket, No. 2,242, dated 13th instant, that Ellia Chetty, the petitioner, appeared this day before me and Mr. Hawksworth.

2. Mr. Hawksworth explained that he did not sign the two cheques in question, because he wished certain inquiries to be instituted before the money was actually paid to the contractor.

3. I explained, however, to Mr. Hawksworth that this was not the proper course to pursue, and that he should either issue a cheque or else not issue it, and that this half-way process is irregular and meaningless, and that it is improper to enter in the cash book and progress report as expenditure the issue of cheques which, without signature, have no value whatever, and cannot therefore represent disbursements.

4. Mr. Hawksworth accordingly signed the two cheques in my presence; and on my offering them to the contractor, that individual refused to receive them without interest.

5. This conduct on his part will give you an insight into his character. When he received the cheques in the first instance, he should have applied to me; but his plea for not doing so is that in the case of some man or other who sent a petition to me, I had "referred the matter to the Range Officer for report," as if I could possibly dispose of a question of the kind without inquiry.

6. I may mention that a duplicate copy of the petition was addressed by the Chetty to the Controller and received by me on the 17th instant from that gentleman.

7. I have since ascertained from the Tahsildar of Pereacolum that Ellia Chetty is a man of notoriously bad character as an extortionist, his practice being to threaten respectable individuals with shameful charges unless they will consent to pay him to keep quiet. He has frequently been brought before the Tahsildar charged with these offences; and the Tahsildar has only recently fined the Chetty in the sum of Rupees 70 for extortion in a case of the kind mentioned.

No. 205. ORDER THEREON, 14th November 1873, No. 2,767.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 17.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor in Council is surprised to learn from the District Engineer's report on a contractor's petition that an Officer of the Public Works Department, of sufficient standing to have been lately promoted to the rank of Executive Engineer, 4th grade, could be found capable of issuing unsigned cheques in payment of bills for work performed, and entering their amounts in his cash book and progress report as expenditure. The strange irregularity, to use no harsher term, displayed in this transaction, after the unsatisfactory reports of Mr. Hawksworth's work in the South Arcot and Salem Districts, gives rise to grave doubts of that gentleman's fitness for continued employment in a department which demands the greatest precision in the performance of its duties and correctness in keeping its accounts. Lieutenant-Colonel Roberts will accordingly resume till further orders the practice lately discontinued of reporting half-yearly on Mr. Hawksworth's qualifications in every respect as a Public Works Officer; the first report to be due after 31st December next.

2. The 5th, 6th, and 7th paragraphs of the District Engineer's letter are irrelevant to the subject. Whatever a man's character may be he is entitled to be paid for

his work if duly passed, and His Excellency the Governor in Council sees nothing extraordinary in the demand made for interest under the circumstances.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 208. Read the following letter from T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 12th September 1873, No. 3,648 :—

WITH reference to G. O., No. 2,051, of the 18th instant, I have the honour to forward herewith, in original, for the consideration and orders of Government, a letter, No. 36 of the 4th instant, with three enclosures, from the Executive Engineer of the first or Eastern Delta Range, Godavery, relative to the course followed in that range in dealing with taskwork masters, and in making payments exceeding Rupees 20.

2. I beg to state that I am in favour of the present arrangement as described by Lieutenant Brockman, and that it seems desirable to obtain legal opinion as to the necessity or otherwise of taking a stamped receipt for a payment exceeding 20 Rupees to the representative of several men to whom the money may be due.

From Lieutenant R. R. E. BROCKMAN, R.E., Officer in charge No. 1 or Eastern Delta Range, Godavery District, to T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, dated Dowlaishweram, 4th September 1873, No. 36.

IN acknowledging the receipt of G. O., No. 2,051, dated 18th August 1873, dispensing with the signature of taskwork masters, and also the affix of adhesive stamps for payments exceeding Rupees 20, I have the honour to bring to your notice the procedure adopted in this range in making payments for work done, and approved of by four of the former Range Officers* and myself as follows :—

* Mr. Sage. Mr. Hannan. Major Hasted. Captain Mead.

1. When any large masonry work, such as a bridge, aqueduct, or building is given out on contract the Form H. is used, and a personal ledger kept with the contractor.
2. When any new minor masonry works or repairs to them and to civil buildings are given out on contract, Form I. is used.
3. When any work, such as loading, unloading, carting, punting materials, dressing stone, grinding mortar, cutting bushes, at so much a cubic yard, a square, a garce, a mile, and so on is done, it is accounted for in Form F. (task or job work), and receipts which are attached to the original station books or duplicates of Form F. retained in the Range Office are taken for any amount. A form of it is enclosed for your inspection.
4. When any earthwork, whether new or repairs, is entrusted to a single contractor, or a gang of buntadars, payments are made on abstracts of measurements prepared and submitted by the Overseer through his Sub-division Officer, who countersigns them in token of his having measured the work and checked it with the pit-books which are kept on the works till their completion ; and nominal rolls are received in this office signed by the buntadars with receipt stamps in case of the amounts exceeding Rupees 20. I enclose two forms of this nature for your inspection.

In G. O., No. 1,329, dated 14th May 1872, although all earthwork executed by the bunta system was ordered to be treated as departmental agency in the accounts, and now shown so in the monthly accounts in this range, it is considered safe to put it in Form F. so as to compel the Sub-division Officers to regularly measure and check every single bit of work and attach their

certificates of having done so in the Overseer's accounts which are sent to the Range Office through them.

5. All daily labour, such as coolies, bricklayers and other workmen, and items below Rs. 50 of earthwork, taskwork, etc., passed by the Sub-division or Range Officer, after due check, are only paid by the Overseer, and all the rest by the Range Officer on cheques.

2. With reference to the foregoing I beg to suggest that unless formal and authenticated receipts are taken from the men for all payments made except for daily labour by the members of the department, the disbursing subordinates and officers who are apt to be transferred from one district or charge to another will become responsible for the payments and be liable to be sued in the Civil Courts, where they would have to attend and remain for several days to the detriment of works under their charge, and I therefore request your opinion as to whether the present system should be followed in this range, which appears to me to relieve the departmental officers concerned of all responsibility in accounting for outlay.

No. 209. ORDER THEREON, 14th November 1873, No. 2,769.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 18.

To facilitate payments to labourers employed on the so-called buntadar or taskwork system authority was given in G. O., No. 1,329, dated 14th May 1872, for all work so executed to be considered as having been carried out under departmental agency, and the Overseer in charge on the spot was authorized to pay the labourers from time to time for the work done by them. These payments were to be recorded on nominal rolls specifying the quantity of work done, the date and the amount paid to each head of a gang, whose receipt was to be taken on the roll, and of course whenever the amount of a single payment exceeded Rupees 20 a stamp would be necessary.

2. G. O., No. 2,051, dated 18th August 1873, in laying down that no stamp is necessary to be affixed to the Form (F.), "Station book for Taluq taskwork," in no way dispenses with the nominal rolls and the receipts required to be taken by the Government Order just referred to. As however it is the desire of the Governor in Council that the heads of gangs employed on taskwork shall not be losers by receiving and disbursing the pay of their gangs, His Excellency is pleased to direct that for the future the cost of all stamps required to be affixed to the nominal rolls shall be charged to the particular work on which the labourers are employed, and not deducted from the pay of the men.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 215. Read the following endorsement of the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, dated Fort St. George, 23rd October 1873, No. 4,685:—

From Captain J. PENNYCUICK, R.E., District Engineer, North Arcot, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, (through the Controller of Public Works Accounts,) dated Vellore, 17th October 1873, No. 2,281.

WITH reference to G. O., No. 2,369, of 25th September 1873, I have the honour to forward, for the favourable consideration of Government, a letter from Lieutenant

Bevan requesting to be allowed to revert to the old rates of pay, and cancel the choice made by him of the new consolidated rates.

2. It will be seen that Lieutenant Bevan accepts the decision of Government regarding his promotion, but considers that, as he elected for the new rates of pay on the supposition that he would receive promotion in ordinary course, he has a right to cancel such election on finding that the supposition under which he made it was a mistaken one.

3. It appears to me that the justice of his present claim is altogether unquestionable; the misapprehension was a very natural one, as Lieutenant Bevan could not have expected that a clause of the circular of the Government of India, which distinctly referred to officers promoted under the operation of that circular, would be held to apply to one who was not so promoted.

4. I have forwarded this letter through the Controller of Public Works Accounts, with a view to that officer's notifying what will be the amount of back pay to be drawn by Lieutenant Bevan if his request be complied with.

From Lieutenant W. G. BEVAN, Assistant Engineer, Poloor Range, to Captain J. PENNYCUICK, R.E., District Engineer, North Arcot, dated Arnee, 9th October 1873, No. 532.

As the decision of Government in disallowing my promotion in the department appears to be final, I have the honour to request that you will be good enough to take such measures as you may see fit in order that I may be allowed to revert to the old rate of pay, and obtain the back pay due to me since September 1871.

2. I elected for the new rates in full confidence of receiving promotion to the Executive grade, but as this promotion is now refused, I beg to submit that I am entitled to alter a choice which was made under a misapprehension.

3. The Circular of the Government of India, No. 76, of the 7th August 1867, referred to in the order disposing of my application, has never been communicated to me, but at all events as it had no existence at the time of my appointment (unless it was retrospective), it is not, I believe, usual for such orders to affect appointments already made.

4. The fact of my having been appointed to the Engineering grade while holding the rank of Conductor, led me to believe that I was placed on the strength of the establishment and not on the extra, and justified my expectation of further promotion.

LIEUTENANT BEVAN drew, as an Assistant Engineer of the second grade, Rupees 444-10-4 per mensem, viz.:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Staff pay	200	0	0
Personal allowance under G. O., No. 2,692, dated 3rd September 1867	50	0	0
Military allowance as Deputy Commissary	194	10	4
Total...	444	10	4

2. In October* 1870, Lieutenant Bevan was promoted to the rank of Assistant Engineer 1st grade, and having† elected the new scale of salaries the consolidated pay (Rupees 450 per mensem) of an officer of that rank has since been passed to him. Had Lieutenant Bevan abided by the old rules he would not have drawn any increase of

* *Vide Fort St. George Gazette*, of 4th October 1870, Page 1,274.

† *Vide* Statement forwarded by Secretary to Government, dated 12th June 1871.

pay on his departmental promotion, as the personal allowance of Rupees 50 granted to him when Assistant Engineer of the 2nd grade made his total receipts equal to those‡ to which he was entitled as Assistant Engineer 1st grade. On promotion,§ however, to the rank of Assistant Commissary he would have drawn Rupees 25 in excess of his present pay, viz. :—

	RS.	A.	P.
‡ Staff salary as Assistant Engineer 1st grade	250	0	0
Military allowance as Deputy Commissary	194	10	4
Total...	444	10	4

§ On the 20th September, *vide Fort St. George Gazette* of the 7th Nov. 1871, page 1,731.

		RS.
Present consolidated pay		450
Staff salary as Assistant Engineer 1st Grade	250	
Military allowance as Assistant Commissary	225	
		475
Difference...		25

3. In the event, therefore, of Lieutenant Bevan's request being acceded to, the arrears of pay to be passed to him will be as follows :—

	RS.	A.	P.
From 20th to 30th September 1871, at Rs. 25 per mensem ...	9	2	8
From 1st October 1871 to 30th September 1873, at do. ...	600	0	0
Total...	609	2	8

(Signed) T. MOSS,
Offg. Controller, P. W. Accounts.

No. 216. ORDER THEREON, 15th November 1873, No. 2,772.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 19.

LIEUTENANT Bevan will be allowed to revert to the old rates of pay as he requests ; and the Controller is authorized to pay him the arrears noted in his endorsement. It is not, however, understood by His Excellency the Governor in Council how a Government of India Circular, printed with an order of this Government in which a personal allowance was passed to Lieutenant Bevan, could fail to have been communicated to that officer as stated in the third paragraph of his letter.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 220. Read the following letter from Major J. O. HASTED, R.E., District Engineer, Kistna, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Masulipatam, 29th September 1873, No. 68 :—

I HAVE the honour to forward a list of disallowances from salary bill in which the Controller of Public Works Accounts objects to pass the salary of Mr. McGrath, lately appointed as Navigation Superintendent, on the ground that he has not passed the Uncovenanted Civil Service Examination.

2. Mr. McGrath has been employed for some years as a Surveyor in the district, and holds a certificate of qualification as a first-class Surveyor and Draughtman from the Civil Engineering College, which entitles him to draw Rupees 150 per mensem while employed on survey duties. He has worked very satisfactorily, and when his services were no longer required on the out-door work of the delta project, I appointed him Navigation Superintendent under the impression that the examination he had passed, proving his qualifications to be superior to those required for the Uncovenanted Civil Service Examination, entitled him to hold the post. Mr. McGrath joined his appointment on the 8th July, and on my late visit to the range, I received a very good account of him from the Range Officer.

3. If it is held that the Civil Engineering College certificate as Draughtsman and Estimator is not sufficient to qualify the holder for office or minor executive employment, I would request that a special case may be made of Mr. McGrath's appointment, and that the Controller may be authorized to pass his pay.

No. 221. ORDER THEREON, 15th November 1873, No. 2,775.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 20.

MR. MCGRATH having been actually appointed as Navigation Superintendent under the impression that a certificate which entitled him to draw Rupees 150 as Surveyor or Draughtsman was sufficient qualification to absolve him from passing the Uncovenanted Civil Service Examination, will be exempted from passing that examination until the next opportunity occurs; when failure to pass will disqualify him from holding the appointment in question, and he must be otherwise provided for with reference to his special qualifications.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 229. Read the following Circular from the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Establishment—General,) dated Simla, 18th September 1873, No. 49 :—

Proposal to make subscriptions to Provident Funds obligatory on the part of married European or Eurasian Upper and Lower Subordinates of the Public Works Department as a condition of appointment.

Read the following :—

From Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. SANKEY, R.E., Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, Public Works Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, dated Bangalore, 5th August 1873, No. 101 A.

ADVERTING to Circular No. 16 of 1873, from the Officiating Accountant General in regard to the realization, through Government treasuries, of subscriptions and premia to the Provident Branch of the Uncovenanted Service Family Pension Fund, I have the honour, by desire of the Chief Commissioner, to submit, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the question of the expediency of making subscriptions to Provident Funds obligatory

on the part of married European or Eurasian Upper and Lower Subordinates of this Department as a condition of appointment.

2. With reference to this subject I am to observe that on an application from the late Chief Commissioner, Mr. Bowring, the Government of India was pleased, in letter No. 832 E of the 28th May 1868, to sanction advances being made to subordinates for the purpose of becoming subscribers to the Madras Widow and Orphan Fund; and, in accordance with this, definite instructions were issued under the Deputy Accountant General's Circular (copy herewith transmitted), No. 638 of the 18th June 1868, defining the conditions under which such advances would be made.

3. It was confidently hoped that under the encouragement thus given to provident and economic habits among the married subordinates of this department, the opportunity would have been gladly availed of to make proper provision for their families, and a stop be put to the frequently recurring cases of destitution, which had originally forced on the attention of the Chief Engineer the desirability of aiding his subordinates to make proper provision for their wives and families.

4. Only one subordinate, in addition to the individual whose case gave rise to the reference in 1868, has however, since the issue of the rules in question, taken advantage of the terms, while at the same time several very distracting cases have occurred of widows and children being left entirely destitute.

5. This is a state of matters which the Chief Commissioner is most anxious should be checked, as both distressing in itself, and more or less discreditable to this administration; and he would, therefore, be glad to learn whether His Excellency in Council is disposed to view favourably the condition, adverted to in the first paragraph of this letter, being imposed on newly-appointed European and Eurasian subordinates, while continuing the terms of the printed Circular herewith forwarded, and arranging for payment of instalments by monthly deductions from salary, being made by the Controller, Public Works Accounts.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of the above letter be forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations, and to the Officers noted in the margin, with a request that the Government of India may be favoured with their views on the suggestion.

The Governments of Madras and Bombay, in the Public Works Department.
The Governments of Bengal, North-Western Provinces, and Punjab, in the Buildings and Roads and Irrigation Branches.
The Chief Commissioners of Central Provinces, Oudh, and British Burmah.
The Resident at Hyderabad.
The Agents to the Governor General for Central India and Rajpootana.
The Superintendent of Port Blair and Chief Commissioner of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
The Inspector-General of Military Works.
The Consulting Engineers to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways at Calcutta, Lahore, and Lucknow.
The Chief Engineer, Punjab Northern (State) Railway.
The Officiating Chief Engineer, Indus Valley (State) Railway.
The Superintending Engineers, Bengal Northern Railway Survey, Delhi and Agra Districts, Rajpootana (State) Railway, Holkar (State) Railway, Neemuch (State) Railway, Western Rajpootana Railway Survey, and Sindia (State) Railway.

(By order.)

(Signed) J. G. STEEL, Captain, R.E.,

Offg. Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 230. ORDER THEREON, 17th November 1873, No. 2,780.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 21.

ORDERED that the following letter be sent.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

No. 231. From the Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, Public Works Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, P.W.D., dated 17th November 1873, No. 2,781.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 22.

Sir,—In acknowledging the receipt of the Circular of the Government of India, No. 49 of 28th September, inviting the views of Local Governments and Administrations to the question of the expediency of making subscriptions to Provident Funds obligatory on the part of married European or East Indian Upper and Lower Subordinates of the Public Works Department as a condition of appointment, I am directed to observe that His Excellency the Governor in Council, assuming that the proposal has reference to a general fund applicable to public officers of the class in question, of all departments, throughout the empire, considers the establishment of a compulsory service fund to be highly desirable if the Government of India can see its way to its organization.

No. 253. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. GODDARD, R.E., District Engineer, Presidency, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 24th October 1873, No. 3,516 :—

In obedience to G. O., No. 2,232, dated 10th September 1873, paragraph 4, calling for a special report with reference to the discrepancies pointed out between the stock registers and inventories of tools, etc., in the Workshop Stores, I have the honour to report that the discrepancies noted by the Deputy Controller, on his audit of the accounts of the Workshops, were caused by the non-entries of receipts and issues of stores in the books.

2. Until the year 1871-72 there were no regular stock registers kept in the Workshops, when the Controller prescribed a form of registers to be kept, showing receipts and issues of all stores. Previous to 1871-72 articles as required for works were obtained from the Public Works Stores or purchased in the market, and, on receipt, issued and written off at once to the work concerned, so that there appeared no necessity for keeping registers. By and bye, however, remnants of articles issued to be manufactured began to accumulate. Stock received from the Public Works Stores, and by purchase, but not manufactured or else returned into store, in consequence of orders having been cancelled or dimensions altered, also accumulated. Large quantities of tools were being manufactured for meeting requisitions, and with a view to prevent such materials being lost sight of the Controller considered it necessary that stock registers should be kept of all stores received and stores issued to the works, etc.

3. The man employed on this duty was formerly employed under Captain Curley, when Superintendent of the Public Works Stores, as Book-keeper, and by Mr. Moncrieff as Workshop Storekeeper; but pressure of work owing to the increase in receipts and issues, as the operations of the factory expanded, was too much for a single individual to cope with, and although he was assisted at times the books fell into arrears and confusion.

4. Measures have, however, been adopted for ensuring a correct record of all receipts and issues of stores being accurately kept. Registers are now maintained

commencing with the current official year, the opening balances being the quantities found in store on stock-taking.

No. 254. ORDER THEREON, 18th November 1873, No. 2,793.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 23.

IN Proceedings dated 10th September 1873, No. 2,232, His Excellency the Governor in Council called for a special report of the discrepancies which were discovered by the Deputy Controller on his examination of the accounts of the Chepauk Workshop, between the stock registers and inventories of tools and timber. The letter above recorded, purporting to comply with this requisition, cannot be accepted as the *special* report which was required, reconciling, as far as possible, the discrepancies pointed out by the Deputy Controller. It is clear, however, from the facts reported by the District Engineer in his letter read at the head of these Proceedings that any attempt at the present time to reconcile these differences is hopeless, but accepting the assurance that a fair start has now been made in the maintenance of a correct register of receipts and issues commencing with the current official year, based on the recent stock-taking, His Excellency the Governor in Council hopes that the Controller's report for next year will exhibit a more satisfactory state of things.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 273. Read the following letter from Major J. N. HUNTER, R.E., District Engineer, Salem, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Salem, 28th October 1873, No. 100 :—

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Government, that I have ordered the suspension of Overseer Streenevassaloo Naidoo of Darampoory Taluq for the following reason.

2. The Inspector of Police of Pennagaram Division, Darampoory Taluq, in an Urzi, dated 8th September 1873, brought to my notice that some mortar belonging to the new Deputy Tahsildar's Cutcherry at Pennagaram had been stolen by certain members of this department, and misappropriated to a private chuttrum (village chavady) being constructed by the Sub-Magistrate of that station, and that bricklayers had been employed on it and paid out of the funds placed at the disposal of the Overseer for the new Pennagaram Cutcherry, the Sub-Magistrate being an abettor in the theft.

3. I referred the Urzi to the officer in charge of the Oossoor Range for inquiry and report. That officer now reports that all that the Inspector of Police has brought forward is perfectly true, and that he (Mr. West) has sufficient evidence to convict the Overseer, the Maistry, the Sub-Magistrate, etc., for the alleged theft, and at the same time requests me to authorize him to prosecute the above persons. I have accordingly authorized Supervisor Mr. West to prefer a complaint against them before the Joint Magistrate.

4. The result of the case will be duly reported to Government.

No. 274. ORDER THEREON, 19th November 1873, No. 2,804.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 24.

RECORDED pending the receipt of a further report on the subject, and communicated to the Magistrate of Salem through the Judicial Department.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Read the following papers :—

No. 296. From District Engineer, Godavery, dated 29th August 1873, No. 1,676.
No. 297. From do. do. „ 15th October „ „ 2,203.

No. 298. ORDER THEREON, 21st November 1873, No. 2,816.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 25.

HIS Excellency the Governor in Council is now satisfied that the steps adopted by the Godavery District Engineer in the matter of Local Fund Overseer M. Basaviah were characterized with decision and discretion, and have resulted in a satisfactory settlement of his accounts.

2. But it is not considered satisfactory that with so many Sub-divisional Officers at his disposal, the District Engineer should have allowed the charge of the range to be held by an Overseer during the absence of the Range Officer on privilege leave; and he will refrain in future from making any such arrangement without special report to, and sanction of, Government.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Read the following papers :—

No. 303. Endorsement of the Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 2nd September 1873.

Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 9th August 1873, No. 1,537.

From C. G. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Court of Wards, dated Chetterpore, 17th June 1873, No. 1,304.

IN continuation of the 8th and last paragraph of my letter, No. 966, dated 8th May 1873, I have the honour to submit the explanation* furnished by Tai Ramayya to the District Engineer, and forwarded to me by the latter Officer, regarding certain schemes projected by Tai Ramayya and pronounced to be defective by the Acting Principal Assistant Collector.

* Tai Ramayya's letter, No. 110, dated 10th June 1873, to District Engineer, with District Engineer's endorsement, No. 55, dated 12th idem.

From TAI RAMAYYA, Supervisor, Department Public Works, to Captain H. SMALLEY, R.E., Officiating District Engineer, Ganjam District, dated Russelcondah, 10th June 1873, No. 110.

WITH reference to your endorsement, No. 13, dated 27th May 1873, on Collector's letter, No. 987, dated 9th May 1873, forwarding extract of Mr. Grahame, Principal Assistant Collector,

dated 21st April 1873, No. 116, calling for certain explanations, I respectfully beg to furnish the following on the subject.

2. With reference to paragraph 2, marked A, of the Principal Assistant Collector's letter above cited, I beg to inform you that there is an old tank at Goddur, a division of the taluq by name of Ramasagaram; the whole Goddur Mootta consisting of thirteen villages have applied for its restoration; with the knowledge of the Manager of the Estate, the project was then completed and entered in the Budget of Fasli 1279 or 1280-81, but the scheme has been struck out from it by the Collector for want of certain revenue information. The then Principal Assistant Collector wrote to the Manager of the Estate to afford him the above-said information, who submitted a regular statement of lands to be irrigated by this project, and the increased revenue to be derived from it, which amounted at 8 per cent. per annum; the Manager's statement and his letter recommending the project are in the records of the Principal Assistant Collector's Office, and copies in the Kimedy Range Office.

3. With reference to Mr. Grahame's wording, "Supervisor Ramayya, wishing to have the honour of calling it after his own name" if the work were executed (as the Manager "and the villagers informed me), called it Ramasagaram" in the Budget he sent to me; Ramayya knew well "that if he did not call this really new project a restoration and construction of Goddur Ramasagaram tank" it would not be undertaken at all, "and, if undertaken, it would not be called after his own name;" I beg to state that it was not my intention at all to call it on my own name, and if I wanted I would have called it Ramah Sagaram instead of Ramasagaram, which is not after my name, though I confess I would be very proud to call any good irrigation work after my name, not with a view of benefiting myself, but for the good of the poor people and the estate; there were several tanks in the estate by name of Ramasagaram. If I really wanted to give my own name to any of the works or tanks that I have executed in the estate I would have given them hitherto; notwithstanding I took the liberty of stating that Mr. Grahame states that he came to know all about this tank when settling the estate in Fasli 1272; if he has no knowledge of it, his subordinates should have brought to his notice the correspondence of the Collector. I believe I never mentioned a word to the Principal Assistant Collector about this project than entering it in my Budget submitted to his office. I further beg to inform you that Mr. Grahame mentions in his letter that there were numerous complaints against me, that I have constructed certain irrigation works with a view to benefit my own lands than in the interests of the estate. This is true that I purchased certain Zeroyati lands in different villages for the future protection of my children; I did not at all construct any irrigation works to benefit my own lands in each village, but only for the benefit and interests of the estate, and the Principal Assistant Collector was misinformed on the subject. Mr. Grahame further says that the Manager of the Estate thinks that it is not worth undertaking at all, and that it will not pay as anticipated by me. Why did the Manager not say so first? And the real cause now why the ryots refuse to pay for the water is because they are afraid that indigo will be planted on their lands, and thus do them much injury; the opinion of the Manager might be asked for on this point. It will be evidently seen by the statements of the Manager that it would give an increased revenue of 8 per cent. per annum, and that I never anticipated to put the revenue on guess, and I believe that I never gave any false information in saying that the ryots who hold lands in the bed of the tank would willingly surrender it without asking for compensation.

4. With reference to paragraph 3, marked B, I beg to inform you that, on my inspecting the spot, I found that an aqueduct is necessary to drain off the water from the Thampara of Luchmipuram into the Vamsadhara river, as one of the irrigation channels from the Vamsadhara river being intersected, the terms aqueduct, viaduct, or under-tunnel being the same, I used, the most common term so that the Principal Assistant Collector might understand. The Principal Assistant Collector says I am ignorant of Engineering work; I beg to inform you that I have passed twenty-five years in service and I am going on the twenty-sixth. I have proposed and built several important works in the estate since the last nine years that I am in charge of it, and they were highly approved of by the professional officers of my own department.

5. With reference to paragraph marked C, I beg to inform you that I have already given my explanation so far as I know on the points in my letters, Nos. 553 and 8, dated 21st December 1872 and 4th January 1873, respectively. The Principal Assistant Collector here says that I should be held personally responsible for the excess of Rupees 300 incurred by me in Faslies 1278, 1279, and 1280. I beg to inform you that, according to the old estimates of the roads, I have entered the distance in the Budget for sanctioning the amount of the annual grant which was accordingly sanctioned by the Court of Wards, the difference in the distance was not found out till Fasli 1281 on a reference from the District Collector for measurements of all the roads in the estate. The enclosed correspondence received with your endorsement, No. 13, dated 27th May 1873, is herewith sent. Trusting the information will be considered satisfactory, and that your honour will excuse all mistakes in a poor subordinate who has worked hard for a period of nearly twenty-six years. I am only sorry I never acquired even a single acre of land in the Purla Kimedy Estate.

No. 55.

FORWARDED to the Collector of Ganjam with reference to his letter, No. 987, dated 9th May 1873.

CHETTERPORE,
12*th June* 1873.

(Signed) H. SMALLEY, Captain, R.E.,
Officiating District Engineer.

THE Court of Wards submit the above letter to Government, with reference to their Proceedings, No. 1,206, 5th July 1873.

2. The Principal Assistant Collector has been directed to ascertain and report what expression of the opinion of the Manager of Kimedy Estate on the restoration of the Goddur Ramasagaram tank is on record in his office. From paragraph 2 of the Supervisor's letter it is evident that some further inquiry must be made on this point. In paragraph 4 of the above letter, the Supervisor expresses his opinion that the terms aqueduct, viaduct, and under-tunnel are synonymous.

3. The Court do not consider the explanation furnished by the Supervisor on the points noticed satisfactory.

(True Copies and Extract.)
(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department, with reference to G. O., dated 15th August 1873, No. 855.

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secy. to Government, R.D.

No. 304. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department, dated 15th August 1873, No. 855.

Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 5th July 1873, No. 1,206.

Read again Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 20th September 1872, No. 1,875.

Read also the following letter from C. G. MASTER, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Court of Wards, dated Chetterpore, 8th May 1873, No. 966.

I HAVE the honour to enclose copy of a letter from the Acting Principal Assistant Collector, dated 21st April 1873, No. 116, submitting the explanation

called for by the Court of Wards in paragraphs 10, 11, 17, and 18 of their Proceedings, dated 20th September 1872, No. 1,875.

2. The works on which the Court called for further information were—

(1.) Restoration and construction of Guddur Ramasagaram tank (paragraph 10).

(2.) Aqueduct across the Nagarikatakam channel (paragraph 11).

(3.) Palem and Tembur road (paragraph 17).

(4.) Clearing of the road traces in the hills (paragraph 18).

3. As to the first, the Court will observe that the proposal was not well considered and should never have been brought forward. The Principal Assistant Collector proposes in lieu to have certain minor tanks repaired before the next rains set in. This he will be requested to do, duly forwarding the estimates for sanction.

4. The second project was also ill-considered, an aqueduct having been proposed instead of a tunnel. A fresh estimate for the construction of such tunnel, together with the plan, sketch, and the Overseer's explanation, are herewith submitted for the Court's sanction.

5. As to the third, the explanation of Tai Ramayya Nayadu, late Supervisor is herewith submitted. It is not satisfactory.

6. The Court's Proceedings, dated 11th March 1873, No. 352, on my letter, dated 8th February 1873, No. 273, have disposed of the fourth point. The additional trace from Gooma to Kolakota (a Police Station) was omitted by oversight in the first report and should certainly be attended to equally with the others.

7. I must express my regret that schemes should have been submitted for the Court's sanction on information which has proved so defective as well as erroneous. The only remedy seems to me to place the Public Works administration of the taluq under a man who can be trusted.

8. I am forwarding copies of Mr. Grahame's letter and enclosures to the District Engineer under whom Tai Ramayya is now serving in the Gumsur taluq, in order that any explanation which the late Supervisor can furnish in regard to the transactions now reported upon may be submitted for the satisfaction of his departmental superiors and ultimate submission to Government should they think fit.

From W. F. GRAHAME, Esq., Acting Principal Assistant Collector, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, dated Nowpadah, 21st April 1873, No. 116.

I HAVE the honour to reply to the Proceedings of the Court of Wards, No. 1,875, dated 20th September 1872, calling for certain information with respect to the under-mentioned works in the Purla Kimedy Estate :—

(*a.*) Restoration and construction of the Goddur Ramasagaram tank (paragraph 10).

(*b.*) Aqueduct across the Nagarikatakam channel (paragraph 11).

(*c.*) The Palem and Tembur road (paragraph 17).

(*d.*) Clearing certain road traces through jungles (paragraph 18).

2. (*a.*) *Restoration and construction of the Goddur Ramasagaram Tank.*—Before giving the information asked for by the Court of Wards with respect to this tank, I have to state that I think it will be of little use as an irrigation work, and regret that I ever

recommended its execution. In entering it in my Budget I depended entirely on the information given to me at the time by Tai Ramayya, late Supervisor in charge of the Kimedy Department of Public Works, and it was not until February 1872, when settling the estate, that I came to know all about the tank. The villagers of Goddur informed me at the settlemen t of their village that there was formerly no tank, or anything deserving the name of a tank, which could be developed into a large tank, as proposed by Ramayya, but that there was a small shallow place, perhaps once a tank, apparently not made use of for a considerable length of time and now almost effaced; that this shallow place has no name like "Ramasagaram," but that Supervisor Ramayya, wishing to have the honour of calling it after his own name if the work were executed (as the Manager and the villagers informed me), called it "Ramasagaram" in the Budget he sent to me. Ramayya knew well that if he did not call this really new project a "*restoration* and construction of the Goddur Ramasagaram Tank" it would not be undertaken at all, and, if undertaken, it would not be called after his own name. So far as my present inquiries go I cannot say that Ramayya had any dishonest motives in recommending this project, or that his own lands are likely to benefit by the work. I specially mention this here because there were numerous complaints against Ramayya that he constructed certain irrigation works in the estate more with a view to benefit his own lands than in the interests of the estate.

3. As to the merits of this project the Manager of the Estate thinks that it is not worth undertaking at all, and that it will not pay as anticipated by the Supervisor. The Supervisor gave me evidently false information in saying that the ryots who hold land in the bed of the tank would willingly surrender it without asking for compensation. He did not, however, send me any written agreement from the ryots. At the settlement the ryots told me that they would not give up the land on any terms, and that they never expressed any willingness to surrender the land to Ramayya. The assessment of this land, viz., Rupees 189-12-10, will be lost, and compensation will have to be given to the ryots if the work be executed.

4. Now as to the information called for by the Court of Wards with respect to this work. The present rates of assessment of the wet land, which, it is said, will be benefited by this new tank, range between Rupees 2 and Rupees 7. The ryots have agreed to pay Rupees 4-8-0 an acre on the existing wet land as they now, in some cases, pay only Rupees 3, and to pay Rupees 4½ and Rupees 3 an acre, according to the nature of the soil, for any dry land which may be converted into wet, and to pay a uniform wet rate of Rupees 3 an acre for all Bunjar land which may be brought under wet cultivation. The Manager considers that no water can be supplied to the land from which the Supervisor expected an increase of revenue, and says that the additional revenue promised can be realized only in case a supply of water from this tank be guaranteed. He thinks that the proposed site of the tank is low and the fields which the tank is intended to irrigate are high; that the supply-channel which will have to be dug to these fields from the tank will pass through rocky land; and that its construction is consequently next to impossible. He doubts whether a great deal of the Bunjar land said to be irrigated can ever be irrigated by means of the project under contemplation, and says that the ryots of two villages holding only 146 acres out of the 212 acres of dry land mentioned in the Court's Proceedings have agreed to convert it into wet, and that the holders of the remaining dry land, viz., sixty-six acres in extent, have refused to utilize the water even if it be available.

5. Under these circumstances it is highly improbable that the expected increase of revenue, viz., Rupees 840, will ever be realized from this work; but one thing is certain, we shall, as I have already remarked, lose a revenue of nearly Rupees 190 payable on the land to be submerged in the bed of the tank, and we shall have to pay at least Rupees 2,000 compensation for the land. The increase of revenue will not be eight per cent. as anticipated by the Court, but a mere trifle, perhaps three per cent., at the outside even if the Bunjar land be irrigated and brought under cultivation.

6. The water which this tank is expected to store will enable the ryots concerned to raise second-crop cultivation on the existing wet land; hence the expected increase of assessment on such land as mentioned above. Were it not for the abundant supply of water which we now promise, we could not expect any increase of revenue on the existing wet land.

7. The object of the Supervisor in recommending this work was chiefly to remove the want of water felt by the ryots of China Padmapooram and Maliahputte. This object can best be attained as the Manager proposes, by repairing, at a moderate cost, the small tanks already existing in these two villages, and I therefore propose to have them restored to order after hearing from you. This will have to be done before the next rains. It must be remembered, however, that no increase of revenue will accrue by repairing them, but that they will supply water for agricultural purposes, which is now very deficient in quantity.

8. (*b.*) *Aqueduct across Nagarikatakam Main Channel.*—The object of this work is, as the Court of Wards have correctly understood, to drain surplus water off the lands of Lakshmipooram. This water cannot be drained off into the Nagarikatakam Main Channel itself as the Court remarked, because the channel is high while the land to be drained is low. It is proposed to remove the drainage water by constructing a subterraneous passage below the Nagarikatakam channel and carrying it to the other side of the channel, whence it can easily discharge itself into the Vumsadhara river if a small channel be dug. The enclosed copy of the Overseer's letter on the subject, together with the sketch and plan therewith received, give all necessary information. The Supervisor Ramayya was wrong in estimating for an "aqueduct over the channel" instead of an "under-tunnel" as the Overseer calls it, and his doing so is another proof of his ignorance of Engineering work. The Overseer has sent a revised estimate (herein enclosed), amounting to Rupees 805, for the under-tunnel and the channel to the Vumsadhara river. The Supervisor's estimate for the aqueduct, at a cost of Rupees 1,223, will have to be cancelled.

9. (*c.*) *Palem and Tembur Road.*—Supervisor Ramayya informed me that Rupees 550 were originally sanctioned by the Court of Wards for the upkeep of this road in Fasli 1278 on the understanding that its length was eleven miles instead of nine miles, and that he received that amount (Rupees 550) for Faslis 1278, 1279, and 1280, and spent the whole of it without reference to the length of the road. He says that the work was done under his *own* supervision, but not on contract. His explanation in the matter is enclosed.* I consider it very unsatisfactory, and think that Ramayya should be made personally responsible for the excess expenditure of Rupees 300 incurred by him in Faslis 1278, 1279, and 1280, for he clearly shows that he knew the allotment was meant to be at Rupees 50 per mile.

* Letters Nos. 553 and 8, dated 21st December 1872 and 4th January 1873, respectively.

10. (*d.*) *Hill Roads.*—These roads were begun in January 1869 and were finished in March 1871. The work was supervised by a Special Overseer under the orders of the Manager, and not of the Supervisor, as you observed in your letter to the Court of Wards, dated 11th March 1873. This individual was then paid Rupees 30 a month. I told the Overseer to employ the same man if possible as he knows all about the old traces, and as he very recently inspected them at the request of the Manager. I have not yet heard from the Overseer on this subject. After hearing from him I shall answer your letter, No. 275, dated 8th February 1873.

11. The Manager has lately reported to me on the condition of the seven roads named in the margin of paragraph 18 of the Court of Ward's Proceedings. His report agrees with your remarks, contained in your letter to the Court, dated 11th March 1873, as regards the first five roads mentioned, and shows that these five roads, as also the two other roads which you did not inspect, will have to be done over again. The jungles in all these seven roads were originally rooted up, and not merely cut as the Court observed. They have to be looked after every year, and the jungle will have to be cleared off regularly. An annual maintenance grant will be required for this purpose. I shall let you know hereafter what money will be required for this, and will have it entered in the next year's Budget.

12. The Manager informs me of the trace of a road not mentioned in your report. It is from Gooma to Kolakota. The jungle on this trace was not rooted up but was merely cut, and has, therefore, now grown up again. This line also requires to be cleared this year with the other lines. I shall tell the Overseer to attend to this work if any money can be spared out of the Rupees 5,000 grant now available, but not otherwise.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.—Letter from Tai Ramayya, dated 21st December 1872, No. 553.

Enclosure 2 in No. 1.—Letter from Tai Ramayya, dated 4th January 1873, No. 8.

Enclosure 3 in No. 1.—Letter from C. V. Mullasalingum, Overseer in charge of Kimedy Range, dated 12th March 1873, No. 77.

Enclosure No. 2.—Estimate.

Enclosures Nos. 3 and 4.—Plan and Map.

The Court have now before them the explanations called for in paragraphs 10, 11, 17, and 18 of their Proceedings,* dated 20th September 1872, No. 1,875, as given by the Acting Principal Assistant Collector in Ganjam.

* On the Budget for Purla Kimedy and other estates, Fasli 1282.

2. The facts now reported are so condemnatory of the conduct of Tai Ramayya, the Supervisor in charge of the estate, lately removed from Purla Kimedy and placed in charge of a Government range, that the Court resolve to lay those facts before Government.

3. The Principal Assistant Collector points out (paragraph 2 *et. seq.* of his letter) that he was induced to recommend the construction or reconstruction of a work which the Supervisor called the Goddur Ramasagaram tank by a series of misrepresentations. The Manager of the estate reports that "the proposed site of the tank is low and the fields it is intended to irrigate are high," and "its construction is next to impossible." The ryots told the Principal Assistant Collector that they would not give up the lands required for the bed on any terms. The prospects held out of an increase of revenue were entirely delusive.

4. The Supervisor's estimate for an aqueduct across Nagarikatakam Main Channel was an absurdity ignoring the levels and the requirements of the work. A tunnel was required for which another estimate is now submitted.

5. The Supervisor is proved to have drawn maintenance allowance for eleven miles of road between Palem and Tembur for three years at Rupees 50 per mile. The distance, as he must have known, is nine miles. His explanation is not held to be satisfactory by the Collector or by the Court.

6. The Supervisor in charge of the estate was specially exempted from any departmental control, with the exception of rare visits from the Executive Engineer of Northern Ganjam, and the Court are of opinion that the Principal Assistant Collector should have watched over the interests of the estate and have exercised a general control over the Supervisor's conduct. This he failed to do, and the Court cannot acquit him of blame in the matter.

7. The Hill roads mentioned in paragraph 18 of the Court's Proceedings were, it is now reported, properly cleared in the first instance, *i.e.*, the jungle was stubbed up and not merely cut down. A maintenance allowance will be necessary for these roads.

8. The Court desire that the Collector will take measures for opening up a ghaut for bandy traffic from the low country into the Maliahs. It should lead to Gooma and on to Kolakota and be continued in a north-easterly direction to the frontier so as to communicate with the roads already made in the Chinna Kimedy Maliahs. The charge would be one which might fairly be laid on the funds of the estate, and facilities for disposing of their produce and importing the goods which they require would do much for the civilization of the Sowrahs. Ensign Lever is now in charge of the range, and his experience in Gumsur will enable him to indicate a good trace.

Miscellaneous.

In the above papers the moral and professional conduct of Supervisor Tai Ramayya is seriously impugned. The Collector appears to have brought the subject to the notice of the District Engineer, under whom this Supervisor is now serving, and that Officer will doubtless report on the matter through his own department to which these papers will be transmitted.

2. The Government agree with the Court that the Principal Assistant Collector is very much to blame, inasmuch as he, without inquiry, unhesitatingly accepted and submitted for sanction two schemes, of one of which, involving an outlay of upwards of 10,000 Rupees, he now writes that he thinks it will be of little use, while the other is characterized as absurd by the Court. The information on which he now condemns the more costly project should certainly have been sought ere it was recommended, and it would have been more satisfactory now if it had been stated that his opinion had been formed after a personal inspection of the locality.

3. The Court will inform Mr. Grahame that the Government regard his conduct, in neglecting, so far as was possible, to satisfy himself as to the real character of works which he submitted for sanction, with grave disapproval.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. STURROCK,
Acting Under Secy.,
for *Acting Secy. to Govt., R.D.*

No. 305. ORDER THEREON, 21st November 1873, No. 2,819.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 26.

BEFORE finally dealing with these papers, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves to await the result of the inquiries which the Principal Assistant Collector has been called upon by the Board of Revenue (see their Proceedings of 9th August, No. 1,537,) to submit regarding the restoration of the Goddur Ramasagaram tank; and to direct that the Court of Wards be requested, through the Revenue Department, to submit full particulars of the lands which Tai Ramayya has acquired in the Kimedy Estate.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 320. Read the following endorsement of the Inspecting Engineer for Civil and Military Buildings, dated Vellore, 31st October 1873, No. 1,379 :—

From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., District Engineer, Chingleput, to Colonel E. A. FOORD, R.E., Inspecting Engineer for Civil and Military Buildings, dated Guindy, 24th October 1873, No. 1,936.

I HAVE the honour most respectfully to protest, through you, against the censure passed on me in G. O., No. 2,510, dated 15th instant, before I have had any opportunity of explaining.

2. One of my first acts as Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, in May 1872, was to nominate an officer to join a Committee to choose a site for a temporary hospital at Poonamallee, which, I observed, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief recommended "should be erected as soon as possible," see G. O., No. 65, dated 8th April 1872.

3. Some time passed before the Report of the Committee reached me, during which I was very busily occupied with the repairs of cyclone damages. I did however apply to the Military Authorities to know the object of the hospital, and asked whether it was to be purely temporary, pending alteration of the existing hospital, or of a more substantial character in supersession of, or in addition to the present accommodation.

4. In No. 7,115, dated 23rd September, the Quartermaster General informed me that it was "not in substitution but in addition to the present building, and was only temporary as not expensive." As I had reported that I could not cover 100 beds for Rupees 4,000, His Excellency allowed me to reduce the accommodation to 50.

5. When the plans were prepared the local officers pointed out that the site selected in May was not accessible from the existing hospital, except by a considerable circuit, the fort ditch, always troublesome for invalids and holding much water in the rains, being between the two buildings. They therefore insisted that new out-houses must also be built.

6. Considerable discussion took place over these points, nearly all personal; to expedite matters I waited on the General Commanding Centre District, and procured the appointment of another Committee to reconsider the site, and on their report I desired the immediate preparation of an estimate for the hospital only. This, I beg to point out, was forwarded to the Deputy Assistant Quartermaster General on the 9th December, and returned on the 26th December with the approval of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, notified in letter No. 9,712.

7. You had not then taken up your appointment, and it was not till some time after that date that I received any instructions as to your duty or my communications with you.

8. I must acknowledge my omission of not submitting the papers to Government. I was in the confusion of moving my office, sorting papers, etc., with two utterly new establishments in North Arcot and Chingleput. I knew that the Military Authorities were urgent, and I overlooked the fact that they had not laid the papers before Government.

9. The plans, I further submit, would not show the number of couples. One figure in the estimate alone would tell this, and it was accidentally passed in my

office; here again I must remark that the new organization of 1st December reduced the pay of Superintending Engineer's Estimate-makers so much that both members of my office procured other employment. I had a young inexperienced lad for North Arcot and none in Chingleput, as I was obliged to leave the man whom I promoted from a Range Office to teach his successor, who came direct from the College.

10. I trust that, with this explanation, you will support my request to be relieved of censure. I must again point out that during 1872-73 we had a very severe cyclone, an unusually heavy monsoon, and an unprecedented storm in February, changes of department, organization involving alteration in Range and District Officers and offices, and that this district has nearly the largest expenditure in the Presidency under Irrigation, Military and Communication.

SUBMITTED for the favourable consideration of Government.

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R.E.,
Inspecting Engineer for Civil and Military Buildings.

No. 321. ORDER THEREON, 22nd November 1873, No. 2,829.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 27.

HIS Excellency the Governor in Council accepts Colonel Moberly's explanation, but regrets that he is unable to absolve him entirely from blame in respect to delays and other matters noticed in G. O., of 15th October, No. 2,510.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 324. Read the following letter from Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., District Engineer, Chingleput, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Guindy, 24th March 1873, No. 1,054 :—

I HAVE the honour to submit the following remarks in the hope that it may induce the Government to reconsider their Order, No. 662, of 1st March 1873.

2. I beg to point out that St. Thomas' Mount has never been the head-quarters of the Chingleput District. Whenever that district has been separate from the Presidency, the Civil Engineer has lived at Sydapet, if not in Madras. The Collector's Cutcherry is in Sydapet, and the District Engineer's Office, though nominally in Guindy, is on the confines of the land of that village, and is far nearer to Sydapet than to Guindy; it is nearly two miles from the nearest house in the Mount Cantonment.

3. Immediately after I had sorted the records of the Superintending Engineer's Office I moved my head-quarters to Guindy, and personally have been there when not in camp. I could not procure a house for my family at Guindy,

and therefore left them in Madras. I shall be obliged to continue this arrangement even if the Government insist on my having a small house at the Mount for my personal use, as there is none available for my family.

4. But I beg to urge that Madras is most centrally situated. Ten roads in my charge end in Madras. Eight of these are north or west of Madras, only two are south, only one passes through the Mount:—

The Red Hill Tank is distant from Madras	10 miles,	Mount	16.
Cholaveram do.	do.	15 do.	do.	21.
Chembrumbaukum do.	do.	12 do.	do.	10.
Corteliar Bridge do.	do.	16 do.	do.	22.

If any serious accident occurs to the Chembrumbaukum tank the Adyar would cut me off from it if I were at the Mount; from Madras it can be always reached by the road close to my house which runs along higher ground, or the western road, which is also near my house.

5. It is true that I have no regular duty in Madras proper, but I have to afford professional aid to the Collector, whose salt depôt is in Madras, and for whom I am now arranging the construction of a bridge.

6. I submit that if the Government be pleased even to allow of my residence in Madras it cannot be a precedent for any other officer, as in no other district is there a large town so centrally and conveniently situated as Madras is, in reference to Chingleput, and not in that officer's charge.

7. My office is five miles from the house in which my family reside. Many gentlemen live as far from the offices which they have to attend every day, whereas my work keeps me the greater part of every month in camp.

8. I may point out that if I were in Madras I should pass the Collector's Cutcherry on my way to office, that building being about two miles from my house, whereas it is four miles from the Mount.

9. I presume that the Government do not intend to supply me with another office at the Mount, but if not I shall be put to nearly the same inconvenience as now, of being some two or three miles from my office.

No. 325. ORDER THEREON, 22nd November 1873, No. 2,831.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 28.

COLONEL MOBERLY is informed that the Government decline to enter into any discussion as to the permanent head-quarters of the District Engineer of the Chingleput District. That officer will be required to live either at the Mount, Guindy, or Sydapet, making use for his office of the building provided for that purpose at Guindy. The permission given to Colonel Moberly to reside temporarily at Madras was accorded to him exceptionally and on personal grounds, and Colonel Moberly should not have again raised the question of the permanent residence of the Chingleput District Engineer.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Read the following papers:—

No. 328. From Mr. O. H. COWLEY, to Captain A. AWDRY, Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated Bangalore, 20th August 1873.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith, for His Excellency's consideration and orders, the enclosed bill for travelling, subsistence, and horse allowance due to me, amounting to Rupees 578-5-4.

2. My order of dismissal is contained in G. O., No. 1,376, dated 3rd June 1872, but it was communicated to me on the 26th June 1872. I applied for the payment of my claims to Mr. Hunter, Assistant Engineer of the Cuddapah District, but receiving no reply I am constrained to apply to His Excellency, feeling sure that justice will be done me.

TRANSFERRED to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, with enclosures.

(By Order.)

OOTACAMUND,
22nd August 1873.

(Signed) A. AWDRY,
Private Secretary.

TRANSFERRED to the Controller of Public Works Accounts for adjustment of Mr. Cowley's claims in correspondence with the District Engineer, and with the remark that single horse allowance is the utmost that can be allowed.

OOTACAMUND,
4th September 1873.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P. W.D.

No. 328A. Endorsement of the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, dated Fort St. George, 28th October 1873, No. 4,779.

From Mr. O. H. COWLEY, to T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, dated Bangalore, 23rd October 1873.

WITH reference to paragraph 2 of your No. 52, dated 4th instant, I beg to bring to notice that Mr. Supervisor Lennox, Mysore Public Works Department, now under suspension, draws double horse allowance, and as I was on the same footing as him, and kept up, during suspension, horses, bullocks, carts, tents, etc., I certainly consider I am entitled to more than single horse allowance.

2. Under these circumstances I beg you will lay my claim before Government or the Controller General of Public Works Accounts, Calcutta, if necessary.

SUBMITTED to Government for orders.

2. Single horse allowance only was passed by this office to Mr. Cowley for the period during which he was under suspension in accordance with the orders embodied in the Note of the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, on Mr. Cowley's letter of the 20th August 1873, herewith forwarded for reference.

From 15th October 1871 to 26th June 1872, at Rupees 15 per mensem, Rupees 126-3-7.

(Signed) T. MOSS,
Officiating Controller of P. W. Accounts.

No. 329. ORDER THEREON, 24th November 1873, No. 2,833.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 28A.

HIS Excellency the Governor in Council declines to sanction more than the single horse allowance which has already been passed to Mr. Cowley during the period of his suspension.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 336. Read the following letter from R. F. CHISHOLM, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., Consulting Architect to Government, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 31st October 1873, No. 600:—

IN continuation of my letter No. 522, dated the 23rd September, and with reference to your memorandum No. O, dated the 2nd instant, I have the honour to state that I applied to the Controller for a copy of Form No. 28, referred to in Public Works Code, Chapter X., paragraph 7, clause V., but I learn from that gentleman (letter No. 285, dated the 18th October,) that a copy of the form in question is not attached to his Code. He however forwarded me the enclosed form taken from the Civil Pension Code, and I now submit the same duly filled in.

No. 337. ORDER THEREON, 24th November 1873, No. 2,837.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 29.

HIS Excellency the Governor in Council sanctions the payment of a gratuity of six months' wages to the widow of the deceased workman.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 352. Read the following docket from the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Establishment—General,) dated Simla, 27th October 1873, No. 1,520 E. G. :—

THE following is forwarded to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, for information and guidance with remark that the only return required is that referred to in Chapter VI.-17 of the Government of India, Public Works Code.

(By Order.)
(Signed) J. G. STEEL, Major, R.E.,
Offg. Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Office Memorandum from the Government of India, Financial Department, dated Simla, 18th October 1873, No. 3,766.

WITH reference to the Volume recently transmitted to this department containing detailed statements of the Public Works Establishments in Madras as they

stood on the 1st April 1873, the undersigned is desired to say that this department does not require the return, and has no objection to its being dispensed with.

(Signed) J. W. GARDINER,
Offg. Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 353. ORDER THEREON, 25th November 1873, No. 2,846.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 30.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 381. Read the following letter from Captain J. PENNYCUICK, R.E., District Engineer, North Arcot, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Vellore, 3rd November 1873, No. 2,448 :—

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Order of Government No. 2,591, of the 23rd ultimo.

2. I regret extremely that Government did not in this instance follow the usual course in such cases, and call upon me for explanation before passing final orders. An *ex-parte* statement on a disputed question, however impartial and temperate in intention, can never afford satisfactory ground for a decision, and some sense of injustice must necessarily be felt by an officer who finds himself censured without having an opportunity of explaining his conduct.

3. Had I been called upon for explanation, I think that I could have placed my action in a somewhat different light from that in which it now appears; indeed, I think that I could have shown that I had displayed a good deal of forbearance; I could also have stated, what no doubt the Government would have been glad to hear, that since the date of Mr. Whiteside's letter I had had an opportunity of discussing the matter personally with him, and that I believed that the mutual misunderstanding which had led to the somewhat acrimonious tone of the previous correspondence had been removed, and that the matter would be amicably settled without the necessity of any further action on the part of Government.

4. The prospect of relief from the gratuitous performance of the thankless duties of a District Engineer is not one to cause any great amount of concern, but I should have been glad to have had the opportunity of removing the imputation of want of judgment and courtesy. I do not think that this opinion of my action in the matter would be held by any one thoroughly acquainted with both sides of the question (it certainly is not by the Members of the Local Funds Board, to whom the correspondence was communicated by the Collector, and I question whether it now is by Mr. Whiteside himself), and I therefore regret that Government did not think it advisable to obtain this acquaintance before passing their orders.

No. 382. ORDER THEREON, 26th November 1873, No. 2,862.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 31.

ORDERED that this letter be recorded.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 388A. Read the following letter from Major J. N. HUNTER, R.E., District Engineer, Salem, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Salem, 20th November 1873, No. 107 :—

I HAVE the honour to inform you that Mr. West complains that during the trial at the Pennagaram Cutcherry, while Overseer Streenevassalu Naidu is under suspension, he has the charge of the trial which absorbs much of his time, the charge of the range and the charge of the taluq, Darampoory, and requests that another Overseer may be appointed to take charge of the taluq for the time.

2. Under Chapter III., Clause 13 of the Public Works Code, I am restrained from making an acting appointment in the case; but in the present instance, as there is a good deal of work going on, and as it is likely to be sometime before Streenevassalu Naidu's case is finally disposed of, I request that I may be allowed to put a man in as a special case.

No. 388B. ORDER THEREON, 26th November 1873, No. 2,865A.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 31A.

THE appointment of a temporary Overseer in room of Streenevassalu Naidu is sanctioned as a special case.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 392. Read the following letter from Captain H. M. VIBART, R.E., District Engineer, Bangalore, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Bangalore, 11th October 1873, No. 180 :—

WITH reference to my letter, No. 116, of 19th July 1873, regarding the Civil Suit brought against me by late Road Contractor Moonevencatappah, I have now the honour to forward the judgment and decree in the case. It will be seen that each party has been required to pay his own costs. I would recommend an appeal against the decision regarding costs, as I am firmly of opinion that there was no necessity for the suit, as the contractor might, by coming to my office, have obtained every information he required, including copies of the entries in the book. Moreover, it is evident that these entries were not required by the late contractor to make up his bill as his bill had been already made up and sent into my office.

2. Perhaps the Government may not consider it desirable to appeal, but certainly if I was engaged in this case, as a private individual I should appeal against the decision as regards costs.

3. With that portion of the judgment which relates to the copy of the entries in the book, I in no way concern myself, as had the late contractor come to my office he would have been permitted to take a copy at any time. The last letter of the contractor was not answered, as I had already informed him in a previous letter that he could have all the information he required by attending at my office.

4. The judgment states that "there had been some misunderstanding between them" (that is the late contractor and myself). The fact is the late contractor made out a bill which it was utterly out of the question to pass, and the

contractor having been already informed that he could have every information at the office, wrote the letter, dated 19th June, for the purpose of bringing the action.

5. The judgment again states that "after the order book was withdrawn from defendant's custody, plaintiff was in need of the requisite information to enable him to prepare the bills." This was not the case for (as above stated) the bill had already been sent in by the contractor.

6. Again, it is stated that "he (Captain Vibart) has no recollection of plaintiff having ever personally requested him for the grant of copies." Whereas my reply to the query, "did the plaintiff ask you personally for the grant of a copy?" was, "certainly not."

7. I again declare that had the late road contractor come to my office he could have had every information he required; but that he did not do so for reasons best known to himself.

8. Mr. Overseer Taylor took over charge of the roads on 4th July 1872, and declares that ever since that date he retained possession of the book, so that the allegation of the contractor regarding his being in possession of the book in September is false.

9. The orders in the book could be no guide to the contractor so far as framing a bill for work done was concerned. They merely show to what road repairs were at the time required; but no reference is made in them to the nature or extent of the work, these particulars being invariably pointed out to the contractor (or a person deputed by him) by the Overseer; neither is it evident from the orders that the work pointed out from time to time was ever executed.

10. The probable motive of the contractor in asking for the order book was to fabricate an excessive bill against Government for work which was never done. He never took measurements himself when work was being given out, and had he done so when the work was being done, or immediately after it was executed, there would have been no necessity for his asking for the book. The book shows merely to what roads work was ordered to be done.

11. I shall be obliged by your informing me as soon as possible whether the Government wish an appeal made on the subject of costs, as if so it must be lodged before 4th November next.

12. The Government costs amount to Rupees 53 in addition to which there is a further sum for copies of judgment, stamps, etc.

No. 393. ORDER THEREON, 27th November 1873, No. 2,868.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 32.

His Excellency the Governor in Council declines to allow an appeal against the decision arrived at, and directs the payment of the costs and other expenses involved. He remarks that this penalty has been incurred by neglect to give an official reply to the plaintiff's letter of the 19th June, on which neglect the question of the costs hinged. It is therefore in recognition of the District Engineer's general good management of his work that he is exempted from personally bearing the charges incurred by his want of judgment in this instance.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 411A. Read the following letter from Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., District Engineer, Chingleput, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Guindy, 22nd November 1873, No. 2,268 :—

2 Letters from Messrs. Branson and Branson, 5th and 19th November 1873.
1 Agreement.
1 Letter from Government Solicitor, No. 618, 15th November 1873 (to be returned).

IN reply to G. O., No. 124, dated 19th instant, I have the honour to report that work on the Conjeveram Dispensary was delayed originally by the frequent rains during last year, which destroyed the materials prepared by the man who had undertaken the work under verbal agreement with Mr. Ottmann, then in charge of Conjeveram Range, who appears to have been misled into a belief that he was a man of means.

2. Every allowance was made by Mr. Lowry for the difficulties of locality, weather, etc., and it was only after repeated directions from me that he took the work from Rajagopaul Naidu. I was exceedingly disappointed however in finding after some days that he had such influence in the place that nobody would supply labour or materials, and I was obliged to give way to Mr. Lowry and to allow of Rajagopaul Naidu's resuming work. An agreement was however drawn up, which I enclose, under which he bound himself to complete the building by 30th July 1873, or to forfeit Rupees 500 which was then due to him.

3. On a visit paid to Conjeveram the Inspecting Engineer proposed a good coat of wash instead of fine plaster to the walls, and I desired the Maistry not to go on with plastering till he received further orders from Mr. Lowry. These he must have got in a few days. There was plenty of other work, roofing, flooring, etc., to be done, and Rajagopaul Naidu had no real grounds for his assertion that, in consequence of these few days' delay, his work-people had gone away, and he had been put to extra expense. Mr. Lowry, however, gave him some further time. On the 1st October 1873, I heard that the building was still incomplete and I insisted on Mr. Lowry's taking the work up departmentally and pushing on with it at any cost, as the forfeited Rupees 500 would cover all extra charges.

4. This he did on the 10th October 1873, and in a letter received to-day reports the building complete, with the exception of asphalting the bath-rooms and latrines and placing two sky-lights in the roof of the operating-room.

5. Meanwhile Rajagopaul Naidu has appealed, through his Solicitors, against my proceeding (letter enclosed). The Government Solicitor in his reply (also enclosed) considers me justified. I have received also to-day a further demand from Messrs. Branson and Branson (Rajagopaul Naidu's Solicitors) also enclosed, and beg the early instructions of Government as to defending the suit threatened for damages.

No. 411B. ORDER THEREON, 28th November 1873, No. 2,877A.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 32A.

BEFORE authorizing the defence of any suit which may be brought by Rajagopaul Naidu in connection with his contract for the construction of the Civil Dispensary at Conjeveram, His Excellency

the Governor in Council desires to be furnished with a copy of the plaint, together with the draft answer proposed to be made, in accordance with the rules laid down in the Public Works Code, which should be strictly followed in all legal proceedings which may hereafter arise.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 421. Read the following letter from T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 5th November 1873, No. 4,987:—

WITH reference to the terms under which sanction is given in Government Order No. 2,580, of the 22nd ultimo, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation for the employment of temporary lascars when travelling with tents, I have the honour to inquire whether it is intended to give the Chief Engineer the aid of lascars for pitching his own private tents, or simply to increase the number of lascars for the care, etc., of office tents. If the former, I beg to suggest that the confirmation of the Government of India be obtained, as under existing rules the travelling allowance of the Chief Engineer is intended to cover all his travelling expenses.

No. 422. ORDER THEREON, 28th November 1873, No. 2,884.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 33.

HIS Excellency the Governor in Council directs that pending the settlement of the question of the permanent arrangement to be made for the marching establishment of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation under G. O., of 22nd October 1873, No. 2,580, the charge for the temporary lascars referred to in this letter be included in contingent bills on the precedent noted in G. O., of 12th November 1860, No. 2,340.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.